

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated May 24, 2004, in which claims 1-15 were rejected. With this Amendment, claims 1, 5, and 13 are amended, and claim 2 is canceled. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1 and 3-15 are requested.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sun. Sun shows a club head with a crown having depressions on the top portion of the crown. Claim 1 is amended to clarify that the slot on the crown of the present invention extends along a rear portion of the crown. In addition, claim 1 is further amended to clarify that the slot has a maximum depth of about 0.3 mm. Claim 1, as amended, is not obvious in view of Sun, and each of the claims that depend from claim 1 are no longer obvious. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

Claims 5 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sun in view of Duclos. Duclos discloses a club head that essentially has a slot extending along the rear portion of the crown and allows communication with an interior cavity of the crown. The Examiner stated that the slot taught by Duclos has upper and lower convex portions and a middle concave portion. Claim 5 is amended to clarify that the middle concave portion of the slot of the present invention has a maximum depth of about 0.3 mm. Duclose teaches having a slot with a middle concave portion that has a maximum depth that is much larger than 0.3 mm. (Figs. 3 and 6; col. 3, lines 43-47).

Claim 13 is amended to distinguish over Sun and Duclos as described for claims 1 and 5. Claims 5 and 13, as amended, are not obvious in view of Sun and Duclos, and each of the claims which depend from claims 5 and 13 are no longer obvious. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

The Amendment has placed this application in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of any

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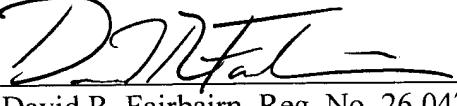
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additional fees associated with this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0982.

Respectfully submitted,

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